AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) An image processing apparatus comprising:

~~an image processing unit~~ an image data processing section for executing at least one image processing operation with respect to digital image data; and

a condition setting section comprising

a set-up subsection for automatically setting initial values for image processing conditions for the at least one image processing operation, and

a set value changing ~~device~~ subsection for selecting a plurality of changed values for image processing conditions for the ~~as to said~~ at least one image processing operation from among plural levels or plural combinations ~~which are~~ of typically preset ~~of~~ image processing conditions for the at least one image processing operation, and changing ~~set~~ the initial values for ~~of said plurality of~~ image processing conditions ~~from previously set values~~ into the changed values for the ~~said~~ selected plurality of image processing conditions.

2. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The image processing apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein:

said at least one image processing operation includes any one of a sharpness processing operation, a gradation processing operation, a density

processing operation, a color processing operation, a shielding-print processing operation, a partial correction processing operation, a logogram/character-synthesizing process operation, and an edging process operation; and

said image processing conditions ~~includes~~ include conditions selected from ~~as to at least one set~~ at least one of the group consisting of execution/no execution, strong/weak, and deep/light of one image processing operation.

3. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The image processing apparatus as claimed in claim 1, further comprising:

an embedding ~~device~~ section for embedding said changed ~~set~~ values of said plurality of image processing conditions into output image data which has been processed based on said changed ~~set~~ values of said plurality of image processing conditions.

4. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The image processing apparatus as claimed in claim 1, further comprising:

an image processing condition coding ~~device~~ section for encoding said plurality of image processing conditions in batch mode; and wherein

said image data processing section ~~unit~~ performs said at least one image processing operation based on coded information which said plurality of image processing conditions is coded in the batch mode.

5. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A customized printing system comprising:

an image input apparatus for inputting thereinto an image as digital image data;

an image processing apparatus comprising :

an image data processing ~~unit~~ section for executing at least one image processing operation with respect to digital image data, and

a condition setting section comprising

a set-up subsection for automatically setting initial values for image processing conditions for the at least one image processing operation, and

a set value changing ~~device~~ subsection for selecting a plurality of changed values for image processing conditions for the ~~as to said~~ at least one image processing operation from among plural levels or plural combinations ~~which are~~ of typically preset ~~of~~ image processing conditions for the at least one image processing

operation, and changing ~~set~~ the initial values for ~~of said plurality of~~ image processing conditions ~~from previously set values~~ into the changed values for the ~~said~~ selected plurality of image processing conditions; and

an image output apparatus for outputting the image-processed image data as output image data.

6. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The customized printing system as claimed in claim 5, wherein:

said at least one image processing operation includes any one of a sharpness processing operation, a gradation processing operation, a density processing operation, a color processing operation, a shielding-print processing operation, a partial correction processing operation, a logogram/character-synthesizing process operation, and an edging process operation; and

said image processing conditions include conditions selected from ~~as to at least one set~~ at least one of the group consisting of execution/no execution, strong/weak, and deep/light of one image processing operation.

7. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The customized printing system as claimed in claim 5, wherein said image processing apparatus is further comprises:

an embedding ~~device~~ section for embedding said changed ~~set~~ values of said plurality of image processing conditions into said output image data which has been processed based on said changed ~~set~~ values of said plurality of image processing conditions.

8. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The customized printing system as claimed in claim 5, wherein said image processing apparatus further comprises:

an image processing condition coding ~~device~~ section for encoding said plurality of image processing conditions in batch mode; and

said image data processing apparatus performs said at least one image processing operation based on coded information which said plurality of image processing conditions is coded in the batch mode.

9. (ORIGINAL) The customized printing system as claimed in claim 5, further comprising:

a database which registers thereinto both a film identification number and image processing conditions with respect to an image photographed on a photographic film corresponding to said film identification number.

10. (ORIGINAL) The customized printing system as claimed in claim 9, wherein said database is to further register information related to a customer in connection with the image processing conditions as to a printing order of said customer.

11. (ORIGINAL) The customized printing system as claimed in claim 10, wherein said database is connected to a plurality of other databases via a communication network, whereby the image processing conditions related to said customer, which is saved in said other databases, can be utilized based on the information related to said customer.

12. (NEW) An image processing apparatus for performing at least one image processing operation with respect to digital image data, said image processing apparatus comprising:

a data processing section;

a Log converter;

a prescan memory;

a fine scan memory, wherein the data processing section and the Log converter are operatively connected to the prescan memory and the fine scan memory;

a prescan data processing section, wherein the prescan data processing section is operatively connected to the prescan memory;

a condition setting section, wherein said condition setting section comprises:

a set-up subsection for automatically setting initial values for image processing conditions for the at least one image processing operation,

an image processing condition coding subsection for encoding the image processing conditions in batch mode in response to customized requests from a customer, and

a set value changing subsection for selecting a plurality of new image processing conditions for the at least one image processing operation from among plural levels or plural combinations of typically preset image processing conditions for the at least one image processing operation, and changing the initial values for image processing

conditions into changed values for the selected plurality of new image processing conditions; and

a fine scan data processing section, wherein the changed values from the set value changing subsection are sent to the fine scan data processing section for executing the at least one image processing operation.

13. (NEW) A customized printing system comprising:

an image input apparatus for outputting digital image data; and

an image processing apparatus for performing at least one image processing operation with respect to the digital image data, said image processing apparatus further comprising:

a data processing section;

a log converter;

a prescan memory;

a fine scan memory, wherein the data processing section and the Log converter are operatively connected to the prescan memory and the fine scan memory;

a prescan data processing section, wherein the prescan data processing section is operatively connected to the prescan memory;

a condition setting section, wherein said condition setting section comprises:

a set-up subsection for automatically setting initial values for image processing conditions for the at least one image processing operation,

an image processing condition coding subsection for encoding the image processing conditions in batch mode in response to customized requests from a customer, and

a set value changing subsection for selecting a plurality of new image processing conditions for the at least one image processing operation from among plural levels or plural combinations of typically preset image processing conditions for the at least one image processing operation, and changing the initial values for image processing conditions into changed values for the selected plurality of new image processing conditions; and

a fine scan data processing section, wherein the changed values from the set value changing subsection are sent to the fine scan data processing section for executing the at least one image processing operation; and

an image output apparatus for outputting image-processed image data output from the fine scan data processing section as output image data.

14. (NEW) A method for creating a photoprint with a digital photoprinter, which comprises:

inputting an image to an image input apparatus;

outputting digital image data corresponding to the image from the image input apparatus to an image processing apparatus;

performing at least one image processing operation with respect to the digital image data with the image processing apparatus, wherein the performing of the at least one image processing operation apparatus further comprises,

automatically setting initial values for image processing conditions for the at least one image processing operation with a set-up subsection of the image processing apparatus,

encoding the image processing conditions in batch mode in response to customized requests from a customer with an image processing condition coding subsection of the image processing apparatus,

selecting a plurality of new image processing conditions for the at least one image processing operation from among plural levels or plural combinations of typically preset image processing conditions for the at least one image processing operation, and

changing the initial values for image processing conditions into changed values for the selected plurality of new image processing conditions with a set value changing subsection of the image processing apparatus.

15. (NEW) The method according to claim 14, further comprising sending the changed values from the set value changing subsection to a fine scan data processing section for executing the at least one image processing operation.

16. (NEW) The method according to claim 15, further comprising outputting image data output from the fine scan data processing section to an image output apparatus.